"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 327 1688 524 US

Date of Deposit: March 18, 2004

Our Case No.: 6298/453

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

J. Grychowski et al.

Serial No.: To be Assigned

Filing Date: Herewith

For: NEBULIZER APPARATUS AND

**METHOD** 

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit No.: 3761

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

The references now cited are the following:

# **U.S. PATENTS**

| Patent No. | <u>Date</u> | <u>Inventor</u>    |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 2,535,844  | 12/1950     | Emerson            |
| 3,467,092  | 09/1969     | Bird et al.        |
| 3,580,249  | 05/1971     | Kentaro Takaoka    |
| 3,584,621  | 06/1971     | Bird et al.        |
| 3,630,196  | 12/1971     | Bird et al.        |
| 3,658,059  | 04/1972     | Emeram Steil       |
| 3,826,255  | 07/1974     | Havstad et al.     |
| 3,838,686  | 10/1974     | Szekely            |
| 3,874,379  | 04/1975     | Enfield et al.     |
| 3,990,442  | 11/1976     | Patneau            |
| 4,106,503  | 08/1978     | Rosenthal et al.   |
| 4,116,387  | 09/1978     | Kremer, Jr. et al. |

| Patent No.             | <u>Date</u>        | Inventor           |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 4,251,033              | 02/1981            | Rich et al.        |
| 4,268,460              | 05/1981            | Boiarski et al.    |
| 4,333,450              | 06/1982            | Lester             |
| 4,413,784              | 11/1983            | Dea                |
| 4,470,412              | 09/11/84           | Nowacki et al      |
| 4,588,129              | 05/1986            | Shanks             |
| 4,620,670              | 11/1986            | Hughes             |
| 4,674,491              | 06/1987            | Brugger et al.     |
| 4,677,975              | 07/1987            | Edgar et al.       |
| 4,746,067              | 05/1988            | Svoboda            |
| 4,792,097              | 12/1988            | Kremer, Jr. et al. |
| 4,809,692              | 03/1989            | Nowacki et al.     |
| 4,832,015              | 05/1989            | Nowacki et al.     |
| 4,984,158              | 01/1991            | Hillsman           |
| 5,020,530              | 06/1991            | Miller             |
| 5,054,477<br>5,054,479 | 10/1991            | Terada et al.      |
| 5,054,478<br>5,086,765 | 10/1991<br>02/1992 | Grychowski et al.  |
| 5,165,392              | 11/1992            | Levine<br>Small    |
| 5,167,506              | 12/1992            | Kilis et al.       |
| 5,170,782              | 12/1992            | Kocinski           |
| 5,241,954              | 09//1993           | Glenn              |
| 5,277,175              | 03//1993           | Riggs et al.       |
| 5,280,784              | 01/1994            | Kohler             |
| 5,301,662              | 04/1994            | Bagwell et al.     |
| 5,301,663              | 04/1994            | Small, Jr.         |
| 5,309,900              | 05/1994            | Knoch et al.       |
| 5,312,046              | 05/1994            | Knoch et al.       |
| 5,318,015              | 06/1994            | Mansson et al.     |
| 5,363,842              | 11/1994            | Mishelevich et al. |
| 5,398,714              | 03/1995            | Price              |
| 5,458,136              | 10/1995            | Jaser et al.       |
| 5,479,920              | 01/1996            | Piper et al.       |
| 5,487,378              | 01/1996            | Robertson et al.   |
| 5,505,192              | 04/1996            | Samiotes et al.    |
| 5,505,193              | 04/1996            | Ballini et al.     |
| 5,511,538              | 04/1996            | Haber et al.       |
| 5,515,842              | 05/1996            | Ramseyer et al.    |
| 5,520,166              | 05/1996            | Ritson et al.      |
| 5,533,497              | 07/1996            | Ryder              |
| 5,533,501              | 07/1996            | Denyer             |
| 5,549,102              | 08/1996            | Lintl et al.       |
| 5,570,682              | 11/1996            | Johnson            |
| 5,584,285              | 12/1996            | Salter et al.      |
| 5,613,489              | 03/1997            | Miller et al.      |
| 5,617,844              | 04/1997            | King               |

| <u>Date</u>                                                                                                   | Inventor                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date  04/1997 05/1997 11/1997 08/1998 09/1998 10/1998 03/1999 04/2000 04/2000 09/2000 05/2001 09/2002 09/2003 | Johansson et al. Bono et al. Denyer Rubsamen et al. Brauner Grychowski et al. Clementi et al. Verdun et al. Verdun et al. Denyer et al. Denyer et al. Blacker et al. Grychowski et al. |
| 11/2003<br>10/2002<br>07/2003                                                                                 | Grychowski et al.<br>Blacker et al.<br>Foley et al.                                                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                               | 04/1997<br>05/1997<br>11/1997<br>08/1998<br>09/1998<br>10/1998<br>03/1999<br>04/2000<br>04/2000<br>05/2001<br>09/2002<br>09/2002<br>09/2003<br>11/2003<br>10/2002                      |

# **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| Document No.    | <u>Date</u> | Country       |
|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 675,524         | 07/1952     | Great Britain |
| 1 070 292       | 07/1954     | France        |
| 93306974.2      | 03/1993     | France        |
| 0587380         | 03/1994     | Europe        |
| EP 0 414 536 A2 | 02/27/91    | Europe        |
| EP 0 641 570 A1 | 03/1995     | Europe        |
| EP 0 711 609 A3 | 10/1996     | Europe        |

## **OTHER ART**

Photographs of nebulizer manufactured by PARI GmbH with detachable gas flow interrupter believed to have been publicly available prior to February 13, 1996.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

This application relies upon the following prior cases for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120: U.S. Application Serial No. 10/241,205, filed September 11, 2002; U.S. Application Serial No. 09/168,132, filed October 7, 1998; U.S. Application Serial No. 08/600,419, filed February 13, 1996. Additionally, this application is being filed after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d) and the waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i) stated in 1276 OG 55, no copies of the documents cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 are enclosed because they have all either been previously cited or submitted to the Patent Office in the prior listed applications or are U.S. Patents or patent publications.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record in the present case.

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE P.O. Box 10395 Chicago, IL 60610

(312) 321-4200

Respectfully submitted

Kent F Genin

Registration No. 37,834

Attorney for Applicant

| FORM PTO-1449                                                           | SERIAL NO.            |           | CASE NO.       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------------|
|                                                                         | To be A               | ssigned   | 6298/453       |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | FILING DATE           |           | GROUP ART UNIT |
| STATEMENT                                                               |                       | Herewith  | 3761           |
| (use several sheets if necessary)                                       | APPLICANT(S): J. Gryd | chowski e | et al.         |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER |     | DOCUMENT  |         |                    | CLASS/       | FILING         |
|----------|-----|-----------|---------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| INITIAL  |     | NUMBER    | DATE    | NAME               | SUBCLASS     | DATE           |
|          | A1  | 2,535,844 | 12/1950 | Emerson            |              |                |
|          | A2  | 3,467,092 | 09/1969 | Bird et al.        |              |                |
|          | A3  | 3,580,249 | 05/1971 | Kentaro Takaoka    |              |                |
|          | A4  | 3,584,621 | 06/1971 | Bird et al.        |              |                |
|          | A5  | 3,630,196 | 12/1971 | Bird et al.        |              |                |
|          | A6  | 3,658,059 | 04/1972 | Emeram Steil       |              |                |
|          | A7  | 3,826,255 | 07/1974 | Havstad et al.     |              |                |
|          | A8  | 3,838,686 | 10/1974 | Szekely            |              |                |
|          | A9  | 3,874,379 | 04/1975 | Enfield et al.     |              |                |
|          | A10 | 3,990,442 | 11/1976 | Patneau            |              |                |
|          | A11 | 4,106,503 | 08/1978 | Rosenthal et al.   |              |                |
|          | A12 | 4,116,387 | 09/1978 | Kremer, Jr. et al. |              |                |
|          | A13 | 4,251,033 | 02/1981 | Rich et al.        |              | ~ -            |
|          | A14 | 4,268,460 | 05/1981 | Boiarski et al.    |              |                |
|          | A15 | 4,333,450 | 06/1982 | Lester             |              |                |
|          | A16 | 4,413,784 | 11/1983 | Dea                |              | ·              |
|          | A17 | 4,470,412 | 09/1984 | Nowacki et al      |              |                |
|          | A18 | 4,588,129 | 05/1986 | Shanks             |              | <del></del>    |
|          | A19 | 4,620,670 | 11/1986 | Hughes             |              | ····           |
|          | A20 | 4,674,491 | 06/1987 | Brugger et al.     |              | , <u></u>      |
|          | A21 | 4,677,975 | 07/1987 | Edgar et al.       |              |                |
|          | A22 | 4,746,067 | 05/1988 | Svoboda            |              | 7              |
|          | A23 | 4,792,097 | 12/1988 | Kremer, Jr. et al. |              |                |
|          | A24 | 4,809,692 | 03/1989 | Nowacki et al.     |              |                |
|          | A25 | 4,832,015 | 05/1989 | Nowacki et al.     |              |                |
|          | A26 | 4,984,158 | 01/1991 | Hillsman           |              |                |
|          | A27 | 5,020,530 | 06/1991 | Miller             |              |                |
|          | A28 | 5,054,477 | 10/1991 | Terada et al.      |              |                |
|          | A29 | 5,054,478 | 10/1991 | Grychowski et al.  | <del> </del> |                |
|          | A30 | 5,086,765 | 02/1992 | Levine             |              | ****           |
|          | A31 | 5,165,392 | 11/1992 | Small              |              |                |
|          | A32 | 5,167,506 | 12/1992 | Kilis et al.       |              | <del>_</del> · |
|          | A33 | 5,170,782 | 12/1992 | Kocinski           |              |                |
|          | A34 | 5,241,954 | 09/1993 | Glenn              |              | _              |
|          | A35 | 5,277,175 | 01/1994 | Riggs et al.       |              |                |
|          | A36 | 5,280,784 | 01/1994 | Kohler             |              |                |
|          | A37 | 5,301,662 | 04/1994 | Bagwell et al.     | †            | ·              |

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Rev. Dec.-99

<sup>\\</sup>Bhglmain3\common\kgenin\Trudell 6298\6298-453\6298-453 PTO 1449.1.doc

|                                      |                     |            | 1 ago z oi o   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| FORM PTO-1449                        | SERIAL NO.          |            | CASE NO.       |
|                                      | To be A             | Assigned   | 6298/453       |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR | FILING DATE         |            | GROUP ART UNIT |
| APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE   |                     | Herewith   | 3761           |
| STATEMENT                            |                     |            |                |
| (use several sheets if necessary)    | APPLICANT(S): J. Gr | vchowski e | et al.         |

REFERENCE DESIGNATION U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL                      |     | DOCUMENT          | DATE    | NAME               | CLASS/                                           | FILING      |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| INITIAL                               | 400 | NUMBER            | DATE    | NAME               | SUBCLASS                                         | DATE        |
|                                       | A38 | 5,301,663         | 04/1994 | Small, Jr.         |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A39 | 5,309,900         | 05/1994 | Knoch et al.       | <u> </u>                                         |             |
|                                       | A40 | 5,312,046         | 05/1994 | Knoch et al.       |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A41 | 5,318,015         | 06/1994 | Mansson et al.     |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A42 | 5,363,842         | 11/1994 | Mishelevich et al. |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A43 | 5,398,714         | 03/1995 | Price              |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A44 | 5,458,136         | 10/1995 | Jaser et al.       |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A45 | 5,479,920         | 01/1996 | Piper et al.       |                                                  | <u> </u>    |
| ·                                     | A46 | 5,487,378         | 01/1996 | Robertson et al.   |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A47 | 5,505,192         | 04/1996 | Samiotes et al.    |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A48 | 5,505,193         | 04/1996 | Ballini et al.     |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A49 | 5,511,538         | 04/1996 | Haber et al.       |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A50 | 5,515,842         | 05/1996 | Ramseyer et al.    |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A51 | 5,520,166         | 05/1996 | Ritson et al.      |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A52 | 5,533,497         | 07/1996 | Ryder              |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A53 | 5,533,501         | 07/1996 | Denyer             |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A54 | 5,549,102         | 08/1996 | Lintl et al.       | 1                                                |             |
|                                       | A55 | 5,570,682         | 11/1996 | Johnson            | 1                                                |             |
|                                       | A56 | 5,584,285         | 12/1996 | Salter et al.      | †                                                |             |
|                                       | A57 | 5,613,489         | 03/1997 | Miller et al.      | <u> </u>                                         |             |
|                                       | A58 | 5,617,844         | 04/1997 | King               |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A59 | 5,622,162         | 04/1997 | Johansson et al.   |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A60 | 5,630,409         | 05/1997 | Bono et al.        | 177                                              | ,           |
|                                       | A61 | 5,687,912         | 11/1997 | Denyer             |                                                  |             |
|                                       | A62 | 5,792,057         | 08/1998 | Rubsamen et al.    | <del>-</del>                                     |             |
|                                       | A63 | 5,803,078         | 09/1998 | Brauner            | <del>                                     </del> |             |
|                                       | A64 | 5,823,179         | 10/1998 | Grychowski et al.  | <del>                                     </del> |             |
|                                       | A65 | 5,875,774         | 03/1999 | Clementi et al.    | <del> </del>                                     | <del></del> |
|                                       | A66 | 6,033,841         | 04/2000 | Verdun et al.      | <del>                                     </del> |             |
| ·                                     | A67 | 6,044,841         | 04/2000 | Verdun et al.      | <del> </del>                                     |             |
| <u></u>                               | A68 | 6,116,233         | 09/2000 | Denyer et al.      | <del>                                  </del>    |             |
|                                       | A69 | 6,237,589         | 05/2001 | Denyer et al.      | <del> </del>                                     |             |
|                                       | A70 | 6,450,163 B1      | 09/2002 | Blacker et al.     |                                                  |             |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | A71 | 6,612,303         | 09/2003 | Grychowski et al.  | <del>                                     </del> |             |
| · /                                   | A72 | 6,644,304         | 11/2003 | Grychowski et al.  | -                                                |             |
|                                       | A73 | US2002-0157663 A1 | 10/2002 | Blacker et al.     | <del>                                     </del> |             |
| <del></del>                           | A74 | US2003-0136399 A1 | 07/2003 | Foley et al.       |                                                  |             |

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS** 

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE    | COUNTRY   | CLASS/<br>SUBCLASS | TRANS<br>YES | LATION<br>NO |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| EXAMINER            |                    | DATE CO | DNSIDERED |                    |              |              |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Page 3 of 3

|                                      |             |                    | 1 agc 3 01 3   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|
| FORM PTO-1449                        | SERIAL NO.  |                    | CASE NO.       |
|                                      |             | To be Assigned     | 6298/453       |
| LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR | FILING DATE |                    | GROUP ART UNIT |
| APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE   |             | Herewith           | 3761           |
| STATEMENT                            |             |                    |                |
| (use several sheets if necessary)    | APPLICANT(S | ): J. Grychowski e | et al.         |

### **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

| EXAMINER |     | DOCUMENT        |          |               | CLASS/   | TRANSLATION |             |
|----------|-----|-----------------|----------|---------------|----------|-------------|-------------|
| INITIAL  |     | NUMBER          | DATE     | COUNTRY       | SUBCLASS | YES         | NO          |
|          | A75 | 675,524         | 07/1952  | Great Britain |          | -           |             |
|          | A76 | 1 070 292       | 07/1954  | France        |          |             |             |
|          | A77 | 93306974.2      | 03/1993  | France        |          |             |             |
|          | A78 | 0587380         | 03/1994  | Europe        |          |             |             |
|          | A79 | EP 0 414 536 A2 | 02/27/91 | Europe        |          |             |             |
|          | A80 | EP 0 641 570 A1 | 03/1995  | Europe        | <u> </u> | -           |             |
|          | A81 | EP 0 711 609 A3 | 10/1996  | Europe        |          | .,          | <del></del> |

| EXAMINER<br>INITIAL |     | OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)                                                                                             |
|---------------------|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                     | A82 | Photographs of nebulizer manufactured by PARI GmbH with detachable gas flow interrupter believed to have been publicly available prior to February 13, 1996. |

| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
|----------|-----------------|
|          |                 |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.